



**Meeting Summary**  
**BDAC Ecosystem Roundtable Meeting**  
**December 4, 1997**

**Roundtable Members and Liaisons in Attendance**

Karen Schwinn, EPA  
John Mills, RCRC  
Spreck Rosecrans (for David Yardas) EDF  
Greg Gartrell, CCWD  
Amy Fowler (for Walt Wadlow), SCVWD  
Hari Modi, NCPA  
Randy Kanouse, EBMUD  
Tom Zuckerman, CDWA  
Bill Gaines, CWA  
Gary Bobker, BI  
Cynthia Koehler, SSFBA  
Tim Quinn, MWDSC

**1997 Request for Proposals**

Governor Wilson announced the results of the 1997 RFP. A two page summary of the projects that had been funded and a newspaper article were distributed (Attachment A). There were no changes from the recommendations forwarded from the Integration Panel except approximately \$21 million in proposals from federal agencies were not funded from state bond funds but were being proposed for funding from the FY 98 appropriation.

**1998 Funding Process**

Kate Hansel presented the guidance from the CALFED Policy Group to move expeditiously to encumber the FY 98 federal funds and Prop 204 Category III funds remaining (Attachment B). The total amount is approximately \$85 million. The pool of actions available for funding included proposals submitted under the RFP, new focussed grant processes, and directed programs. The Integration Panel was meeting the next week to provide technical input on these potential actions.

Roundtable members expressed concerns that this may result in funding lower quality proposals, and that proceeding to fund additional projects without the opportunity to refocus priorities could affect the quality of the overall program. Roundtable members requested that this process be open and public and that any actions proposed for funding be accompanied by a sound rationale as to why it should be funded. Roundtable members will revisit the balance between moving forward with presenting a focussed picture of the overall program when they consider the actions proposed for funding at their January meeting.

On several specific issues, Roundtable members recommended that the Integration Panel be allowed to forward recommendations concerning flows and water acquisition and requested that summaries of the proposals for funding include information on AFRP linkages, monitoring, local support or opposition, and ability to track financial details.

### **Report of the Workgroup**

The Workgroup met on November 24. Subsequently, CALFED staff were directed to more closely integrate the planning process being developed by the workgroup with the revisions to the ERPP and the Conservation Strategy being developed to comply with CESA and FESA (Attachment C). Roundtable members expressed concerns that this not slow down near term efforts and that there be a clear point in the process where the Roundtable has a draft document where they can say "yes, this Guidance Document is what we want to do in the near term". The goal is to have a guidance document that is fully integrated and satisfies both the Roundtable and the CALFED agencies. If there are points where there is no consensus within the Roundtable members or in the broader community, then the Roundtable wanted to see minority views clearly stated. The workgroup will get together again in December to complete the draft description of the steps.

### **Special Support Programs**

An expanded description was circulated on how \$2.3 million from the FY 98 federal funding was to be used in four special support programs (Attachment D). A concern expressed was that it was inappropriate to use restoration funds to fund actions such as an HCP needed to comply with CESA and FESA as part of the overall CALFED program. Use of these funds was generally considered acceptable if there was a product that was needed for restoration planning that also could be used to meet needs in an HCP. Another concern was that any monitoring program clearly articulate its relationship to the CAMP program in CVPIA and that it include "outside of the box" thinking and input from outside experts.

### **Other Issues**

A proposal to fund a program with Kern County Water Agency which was included in the Roundtable packet was briefly discussed as an informational item only. Attachment E details some concerns with this proposal.

Attachment F is a memo outlining how duties are split between Kate Hansel and Cindy Darling.

### **Future Meeting Date**

January 13, 1998 from 9:30 to 12:30